

Appendix table 7-31.

Public confidence in leadership of various institutions: 1973–2000
(Percentages)

Institution	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1980	1982	1983	1984	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1993	1994	1996	1998	2000
Medicine	54	60	50	54	51	46	52	45	51	50	46	52	51	46	46	48	39	41	45	44	44
Scientific community	37	45	39	43	41	36	41	38	41	44	39	45	39	40	37	41	37	38	39	40	41
Military	32	40	35	39	36	29	28	31	29	36	31	34	34	32	33	60	42	37	37	36	39
U.S. Supreme Court	31	33	31	35	35	28	25	30	27	33	30	36	35	34	35	37	31	30	28	37	32
Banks and financial institutions	—	—	32	39	42	33	32	27	24	31	21	27	27	19	18	12	15	18	25	26	29
Major companies	29	31	19	22	27	22	27	23	24	30	24	30	25	24	25	20	21	25	23	26	28
Organized religion	35	44	24	30	40	31	35	32	28	31	25	29	20	22	23	25	23	24	25	27	28
Education	37	49	31	37	41	28	30	33	29	28	28	35	29	30	27	30	22	25	23	27	27
Executive Branch of Federal Government	29	14	13	13	28	12	12	19	13	18	21	18	16	20	23	26	12	11	10	14	13
Organized labor	15	18	10	12	15	11	15	12	8	8	8	10	10	9	11	11	8	10	11	11	13
Congress	23	17	13	14	19	13	9	13	10	12	16	16	15	17	15	18	7	8	8	11	12
Press	23	26	24	28	25	20	22	18	13	17	18	18	18	17	15	16	11	8	11	9	10
Television	18	23	18	19	17	14	16	14	12	13	15	12	14	14	14	14	12	9	10	10	10
Average^a	30	33	26	29	31	24	26	26	24	27	25	28	26	25	25	29	22	22	23	24	25
Sample size (number)	1,504	1,484	1,490	1,499	1,530	1,532	1,468	1,506	1,599	989	1,470	1,466	997	1,035	899	1,017	1,057	2,011	1,925	1,911	1,887

— = not asked

^aAverage does not include banks and financial institutions.

NOTES: A few respondents did not provide information about their highest level of education. The survey was not conducted in 1979 and 1981, and the question was not asked in 1985. Percentages represent those respondents expressing a "great deal of confidence" when asked the following question: "As far as the people running these institutions are concerned, would you say that you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, or hardly any confidence at all in them?"

SOURCE: J.A. Davis and T.W. Smith, *General Social Surveys, Cumulative Codebook* (Chicago: University of Chicago, National Opinion Research Center).

See figure 7-14 in Volume 1.

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